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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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CENSUS OF FOREST PRODUCTS: 1942

PRODUCTION OF LUMBER, BY STATES AND BY SPECIES

Prepared under the supervision of
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INTRODUCTION

Final statistics on the production of lumber, by species within States, are shown for the year 1942 in the following pages. Other information from the 1942 Census of Lumber, Lath and Shingles to be released in the near future, includes production by counties, production of hardwoods and softwoods by mill size class, production by size class within States, average value by species within States, and stocks of hardwoods and softwoods within States 1/.

These statistics are based on a mail canvass, supplemented by a field enumeration conducted by the U. S. Forest Service and the Tennessee Valley Authority. In the field enumeration, Forest Service and TVA representatives interviewed mills that did not respond to the mail canvass, and, in addition, conducted an intensive search for mills, the names of which were not included on the original Census mailing list 2/. For the 11 far Western States (and South Dakota) these statistics are comparable with those for earlier years, for the mail canvass in these States has been supplemented by field enumeration for many years. As a result of field enumeration in certain Eastern States, however, a large number of active mills, mostly of small size, were located which previously had not been included in the annual Censuses. Some of these mills were new in 1942, but for the most part they represent existing establishments not previously canvassed. This affects the comparability of the 1942 statistics with those for earlier years in all Eastern States, except 13 3/, which were canvassed by field enumeration in 1941. In the remaining 22 States there was generally a marked increase in the number of active reporting mills. On the other hand, some other States show a decline in the number of active mills from 1941 to 1942. These States 4/ were among those for which a complete field enumeration was made in 1941, and the reduced number of mills as shown here for 1942 is accounted for by mills reporting either idle or out of business for 1942. In a later publication, a detailed analysis of coverage will be presented, together with estimated totals for 1941, by States.

- 1/ The work on this Census was done under the general supervision of J. A. Van Swearingen, Principal Economist, Industry Division.
- 2/ Other agencies cooperating in the field canvass: Forestry Schools at State Universities, Extension Foresters, State Foresters, Soil Conservation Service, and other Federal Agencies.
- 3/ Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Ohio, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.
- 4/ Delaware, Maryland, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Ohio.

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As a result of the field canvass it is believed that the statistics for 1942 are virtually complete. Thousands of small mills not previously canvassed were included for the first time, but even in the larger classes, many mills not previously canvassed were located 5/. Despite the marked improvement in coverage, the statistics have certain limitations, mainly inherent in the industry itself. Among the smaller mills, bookkeeping is generally inadequate. Even the total cut for a mill may be an estimate, and the species breakdown for such a mill, particularly in areas of diversified growth, must frequently be estimated by the mill operator or by the enumerator. This may have some effect on the accuracy of the statistics in areas where the small mills account for a considerable proportion of the lumber sawed. Thus, in North Carolina 43 percent of the total lumber sawed in 1942 was accounted for by mills which cut less than 1,000,000 feet each in that year.

Difficulties in enumeration because of lack of adequate mill records were overcome in many cases where the mill disposed of its total cut through a concentration yard. In such instances enumerators were able to obtain information for individual mills from the yard operator, particularly in the South and Southeast where concentration yards are an important factor in the distribution of lumber. This approach was not satisfactory, however, when an operator sold his lumber to several different yards in the course of the year, and where the records at the concentration yard did not indicate clearly whether the cut was for 1942 or 1941. Also, the procedure resulted in some duplication because of confusion in names as reported by mill operators and concentration yard operators. By careful verification, however, most of the duplication was eliminated 6/. Another type of discrepancy occurred in some instances when mills changed hands in the course of the year, with the new owners unable to report the operations of the previous owners. Also, it was difficult to secure information on 1942 production for mills that were idle at the time of enumeration, i.e., March through June 1943. In such cases, the enumerator relied on information supplied by neighbors, contractors, etc.

5/ Data here presented are for all reporting mills, including those which cut less than 50,000 feet in 1942. The corresponding table in the 1941 publication was limited to mills which cut 50,000 feet or more in 1941. (Data for mills cutting less than 50,000 feet were shown by States, but not by species, in Table 3 of Census of Forest Products: 1941, Lumber, Lath and Shingles.)

6/ Customarily a concentration yard owner buys lumber from others for resale to others, although he frequently also owns a sawmill and a planer.

The canvass included all establishments producing lumber and other sawed products from round logs. Mills engaged solely in remanufacturing, finishing, or otherwise processing lumber were excluded. Lumber sawed from the log by establishments which further manufactured it into a finished product - such as furniture - is included. Production data include planks, boards, sawed ties, sawed mine timbers, structural timbers, furniture squares, rough dimension stock and other sawmill products that are commonly measured, bought and sold in quantities of board feet. In a number of cases, the mill reports were in terms of dressed or processed lumber, since many integrated mills, i.e., those both sawing and dressing, were able to report only on a finished basis. The discrepancy, which is of unknown magnitude, is equivalent to the amount of waste in processing. In canvassing integrated mills, however, the cut was counted at only one point in the processing operation, so that no duplication occurred.

A consistent effort was made to canvass the operating unit sawing lumber, regardless of ownership, or method of disposing of product. Frequently, small mills in the East are operated on a contract basis. Under a variety of arrangements, the mill owner may lease the mill to an operator, and buy back the total output of the mill, or he may simply pay the operator wages for operating the mill. With mills so operated, it was often necessary to interview the owner to secure the desired information. Thousands of mills in the South operate on a custom basis, i.e., logs owned by others are sawed on a fixed fee basis or on shares. Such operators were generally vague as to the quantity of lumber sawed, and records on species were frequently entirely lacking. Another numerically large class of small mills consists of those sawing for neighborhood distribution and for own use. Many of these small mills operate only a few days each year, and their aggregate cut is of little importance. However, their potential output is large, given sufficient labor and other favorable operating conditions.

An ever-present complicating factor in the canvass was the extreme mobility of the smaller mills. In an effort to assure complete coverage, as has here been attempted, it was necessary to trace many mills across county and State lines, and having found such mills, to attempt to secure from the operators, details regarding their operations in each of the several counties or States in which the mills operated.

The 1942 Census of Lumber, Lath and Shingles represents the most complete canvass of the industry which has ever been accomplished. Despite the difficulties described above, reasonably accurate figures on the total cut of lumber for all small areas are available 7/, and the true importance of the small mills is brought into proper perspective. On the latter point, some 10,400 mills sawing less than 50,000 feet in 1942 accounted for only 0.6 of one percent of the total cut.

7/ County statistics will be published in a later release, and information on species sawed within counties can be made available on a limited basis.

Production of Lumber, by Kind of Wood and by States: 1942
 (No Lumber Production was reported from North Dakota)

State	Number of active mills reporting	Aggregate lumber sawed (M ft., b. m.)	Softwood lumber sawed (M feet, b. m.)								
			Total	Balsam fir	Cedar				Cypress	Douglas fir	Hemlock
					Incense	Port Orford	Western red	Other			
United States.....	38,895	36,332,248	29,510,184	9,173	40,696	59,574	162,436	38,735	319,413	8,549,755	1,080,751
Alabama.....	2,438	2,109,744	1,736,450	---	---	---	---	1,261	4,793	---	121
Arizona.....	39	143,286	143,286	---	---	---	---	---	---	12,929	---
Arkansas.....	1,439	1,572,598	1,170,124	---	---	---	---	494	16,008	---	---
California and Nevada 1/	311	2,330,041	2,328,717	---	37,369	5,061	---	---	---	290,216	---
Colorado.....	255	85,921	85,460	---	---	---	---	---	---	3,997	---
Connecticut.....	100	17,549	8,031	---	---	---	---	50	---	---	3,065
Delaware.....	105	27,862	24,512	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Florida.....	411	653,600	610,197	---	---	---	---	18	74,012	---	---
Georgia.....	2,280	1,971,087	1,719,546	---	---	---	---	2	17,094	---	90
Idaho.....	235	930,368	930,100	---	---	---	9,527	---	---	177,501	428
Illinois.....	1,040	101,093	289	---	---	---	---	45	138	---	---
Indiana.....	831	169,640	263	---	---	---	---	114	5	---	---
Iowa.....	824	56,081	376	31	---	---	---	9	---	---	---
Kansas.....	222	14,948	73	22	---	---	---	9	30	---	---
Kentucky.....	1,875	466,404	67,109	---	---	---	---	3,535	3,373	---	10,004
Louisiana.....	488	1,231,717	799,316	---	---	---	---	1	53,975	---	---
Maine.....	529	395,653	358,030	2,428	---	---	---	1,731	---	---	47,507
Maryland.....	554	131,138	73,515	---	---	---	---	40	505	---	758
Massachusetts.....	285	103,067	89,157	---	---	---	---	4	---	---	11,282
Michigan.....	739	531,110	171,116	539	---	---	---	2,761	---	---	129,253
Minnesota.....	742	231,812	139,113	2,003	---	---	---	2,425	---	---	---
Mississippi.....	1,986	1,851,539	1,358,080	---	---	---	---	417	17,803	---	---
Missouri.....	2,088	274,750	30,940	---	---	---	---	321	3,655	---	---
Montana.....	249	433,089	433,067	---	---	---	---	---	---	96,663	5
Nebraska.....	119	4,696	137	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
New Hampshire.....	392	361,440	325,494	348	---	---	---	---	---	---	29,385
New Jersey.....	110	24,084	5,269	---	---	---	---	861	---	---	670
New Mexico.....	133	122,391	122,391	---	---	---	---	---	---	19,370	---
New York.....	925	277,651	128,830	197	---	---	---	86	---	---	41,587
North Carolina.....	3,259	1,691,536	1,375,749	---	---	---	---	7,154	30,601	---	9,349
Ohio.....	1,487	270,900	2,743	---	---	---	---	83	---	---	587
Oklahoma.....	160	111,569	81,248	---	---	---	---	---	367	---	---
Oregon.....	758	6,480,178	6,471,128	---	3,327	54,513	14,335	---	---	4,247,204	143,672
Pennsylvania.....	1,381	398,877	102,803	---	---	---	---	52	---	---	54,420
Rhode Island.....	22	4,932	4,429	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	53
South Carolina.....	1,269	1,083,221	886,318	---	---	---	---	63	59,922	---	1,226
South Dakota.....	33	48,453	48,203	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Tennessee.....	2,041	742,865	259,764	---	---	---	---	10,410	22,211	---	10,425
Texas.....	584	1,383,663	1,204,790	---	---	---	---	205	1,966	---	---
Utah.....	109	19,002	18,844	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,939	---
Vermont.....	301	152,193	105,755	3,158	---	---	---	6	---	---	18,896
Virginia.....	2,618	1,213,897	813,156	---	---	---	---	5,345	12,955	---	10,985
Washington.....	554	4,976,170	4,965,727	---	---	---	138,574	---	---	3,696,903	401,710
West Virginia.....	1,558	588,456	62,151	---	---	---	---	11	---	---	31,156
Wisconsin.....	885	483,845	190,264	446	---	---	---	1,222	---	---	132,117
Wyoming.....	132	58,134	58,124	---	---	---	---	---	---	3,033	---

For footnote, see end of table.
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Production of Lumber, by Kind of wood and by States: 1942
 [No Lumber Production was reported from North Dakota]

State	Softwood lumber sawed (M feet, b. m.)										
	Larch	Lodge- pole pine	Ponderosa pine	Redwood	Spruce			Sugar pine	White fir	White pine	Yellow pine
					Engelmann	Sitka	Other				
United States	201,222	66,358	4,030,180	461,552	77,829	405,160	147,258	338,386	274,295	1,478,014	11,761,397
Alabama.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,730,275
Arizona.....	---	---	130,332	---	---	---	---	---	25	---	---
Arkansas.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,153,622
California and Nevada 1/	---	---	1,135,783	461,552	---	3,290	---	262,787	132,659	---	---
Colorado.....	---	32,423	29,945	---	18,108	---	---	---	987	---	---
Connecticut.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	62	---	---	4,850	4
Delaware.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	24,512
Florida.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	536,167
Georgia.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4,537	1,697,823
Idaho.....	40,523	2,061	297,254	---	17,771	---	---	---	63,494	321,541	---
Illinois.....	10	---	---	---	---	---	8	---	---	65	23
Indiana.....	1	---	---	---	---	---	5	---	---	28	110
Iowa.....	12	---	---	---	---	---	54	---	---	253	17
Kansas.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	12
Kentucky.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2,199	47,998
Louisiana.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	745,340
Maine.....	2	---	---	---	---	---	49,753	---	---	256,547	62
Maryland.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	294	71,918
Massachusetts.....	10	---	---	---	---	---	8,598	---	---	69,241	22
Michigan.....	271	---	---	---	---	---	3,608	---	---	34,684	---
Minnesota.....	2,010	---	---	---	---	---	3,088	---	---	129,587	---
Mississippi.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,339,860
Missouri.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	26,964
Montana.....	117,311	2,244	177,497	---	20,584	---	---	---	56	18,707	---
Nebraska.....	---	---	136	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
New Hampshire.....	15	---	---	---	---	---	17,819	---	---	277,927	---
New Jersey.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	358	3,380
New Mexico.....	---	---	95,923	---	2,555	---	---	---	4,543	---	---
New York.....	29	---	---	---	---	---	5,386	---	---	81,172	373
North Carolina.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	75	---	---	38,625	1,289,945
Ohio.....	30	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	148	1,894
Oklahoma.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	80,881
Oregon.....	12,578	1,063	1,722,578	---	185	158,559	---	75,599	36,046	1,469	---
Pennsylvania.....	188	---	---	---	---	---	420	---	---	38,713	9,010
Rhode Island.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4,376	---
South Carolina.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	826	824,281
South Dakota.....	---	---	48,203	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Tennessee.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	17,198	199,520
Texas.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,202,619
Utah.....	---	3,222	8,293	---	4,972	---	---	---	418	---	---
Vermont.....	3	---	---	---	---	---	39,326	---	---	44,366	---
Virginia.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	96	---	---	18,374	765,401
Washington.....	27,372	7	367,418	---	2,033	243,311	---	---	34,753	53,646	---
West Virginia.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	17,143	---	---	4,477	9,364
Wisconsin.....	857	---	---	---	---	---	1,816	---	---	53,806	---
Wyoming.....	---	25,338	16,818	---	11,621	---	---	---	1,314	---	---

For footnote, see end of table.

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Production of Lumber, by Kind of Wood and by States: 1942 --- Continued

State	Hardwood lumber sawed (M feet, b. m.)									
	Total	Alder	Ash	Bass-wood	Beech	Birch	Chest-nut	Cotton-wood	Elm	Hickory
United States.....	6,822,064	14,511	117,406	133,438	317,384	214,734	74,087	282,562	167,153	119,359
Alabama.....	373,294	---	3,770	807	3,935	432	31	4,788	3,285	5,193
Arizona.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Arkansas.....	402,474	---	3,875	100	3,156	77	---	24,437	11,044	8,359
California and Nevada 1/.....	1,324	1,176	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Colorado.....	461	---	---	---	---	---	---	459	---	---
Connecticut.....	9,518	---	74	17	199	209	17	2	11	82
Delaware.....	3,350	---	15	---	11	---	---	5	1	12
Florida.....	43,403	---	4,350	8	86	---	---	55	25	489
Georgia.....	251,541	---	1,907	37	288	179	509	2,231	1,266	1,727
Idaho.....	268	---	---	---	---	---	---	268	---	---
Illinois.....	100,804	---	1,052	219	566	207	35	7,937	6,997	2,746
Indiana.....	169,377	---	4,492	2,109	20,400	211	199	5,684	8,743	5,800
Iowa.....	55,705	---	748	3,247	---	321	---	11,769	8,837	252
Kansas.....	14,875	---	74	24	---	---	---	3,722	1,644	78
Kentucky.....	399,295	---	5,647	10,993	48,567	886	3,091	2,237	3,057	9,502
Louisiana.....	432,401	---	12,500	332	7,066	2	---	21,294	8,635	3,589
Maine.....	37,623	---	1,386	416	1,066	22,368	---	295	34	---
Maryland.....	57,623	---	284	333	1,708	658	266	562	57	2,095
Massachusetts.....	13,910	---	784	471	1,833	2,232	15	8	30	103
Michigan.....	359,994	---	4,770	16,649	20,813	55,915	2	15,773	18,891	551
Minnesota.....	92,699	---	2,404	6,351	---	5,676	---	60,809	6,364	12
Mississippi.....	493,459	---	7,267	966	14,914	162	---	27,104	11,565	9,504
Missouri.....	243,810	---	1,110	111	859	535	10	17,664	11,522	5,452
Montana.....	22	---	---	---	---	---	---	22	---	---
Nebraska.....	4,559	---	46	16	---	---	---	4,157	127	---
New Hampshire.....	35,946	---	300	193	3,122	18,828	---	---	20	---
New Jersey.....	18,815	---	52	11	563	145	10	47	12	216
New Mexico.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
New York.....	148,821	---	6,442	10,005	20,884	21,363	262	416	3,662	295
North Carolina.....	315,787	---	1,836	3,396	1,114	2,146	27,871	1,264	17	2,261
Ohio.....	268,157	---	5,650	3,830	31,167	320	4,882	3,275	20,002	8,065
Oklahoma.....	30,321	---	540	30	---	105	6	669	3,252	317
Oregon.....	9,050	5,801	388	---	---	---	---	1,954	---	---
Pennsylvania.....	296,074	---	6,179	5,136	39,091	6,231	3,569	666	2,168	4,521
Rhode Island.....	503	---	5	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
South Carolina.....	196,903	---	14,985	81	72	128	95	5,187	1,141	863
South Dakota.....	250	---	---	---	---	---	---	250	---	---
Tennessee.....	483,101	---	6,909	4,325	35,593	1,212	4,768	9,390	7,917	10,353
Texas.....	178,873	---	2,704	85	1,553	---	---	4,366	2,550	2,311
Utah.....	158	---	---	---	---	---	---	158	---	---
Vermont.....	46,438	---	551	2,578	7,602	13,986	10	332	506	2
Virginia.....	400,741	---	2,298	3,346	6,175	1,622	8,480	2,164	255	6,653
Washington.....	10,443	7,534	---	---	---	135	---	779	---	---
West Virginia.....	526,305	---	6,226	29,165	43,311	9,887	19,959	1,275	702	27,885
Wisconsin.....	293,579	---	5,786	28,051	1,670	48,556	---	39,078	22,814	71
Wyoming.....	10	---	---	---	---	---	---	10	---	---

For footnote, see end of table.

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Production of Lumber, by Kind of Wood and by States: 1942 --- Continued

State	Hardwood lumber sawed (M feet, b.m.)---Continued								
	Magnolia	Maple	Oak	Red gum	Sycamore	Tupelo	Walnut	Yellow poplar	All Other
United States.....	23,363	641,986	2,762,540	839,522	77,698	303,804	56,248	542,917	133,352
Alabama.....	4,248	3,850	114,270	127,189	5,901	25,995	486	62,311	6,803
Arizona.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Arkansas.....	50	3,648	215,364	100,478	5,993	10,068	685	1,275	13,865
California and Nevada 1/..	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	148
Colorado.....	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Connecticut.....	---	532	8,090	---	---	---	---	285	---
Delaware.....	---	115	2,921	142	---	---	4	124	---
Florida.....	4,823	508	5,355	13,829	10	5,242	---	3,215	5,408
Georgia.....	1,219	5,260	51,529	62,071	1,297	28,989	363	90,975	1,694
Idaho.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Illinois.....	---	4,655	65,827	2,204	3,687	2,293	1,345	381	653
Indiana.....	---	17,408	79,980	4,249	4,665	685	6,145	7,743	864
Iowa.....	---	4,341	20,163	10	291	15	5,473	---	238
Kansas.....	---	236	2,342	---	497	---	6,076	---	182
Kentucky.....	---	15,825	220,333	12,559	4,212	3,507	4,521	51,871	2,487
Louisiana.....	5,146	1,472	146,487	112,189	3,808	77,629	3	1,257	30,992
Maine.....	---	4,074	7,963	---	---	---	---	---	21
Maryland.....	---	3,064	33,445	5,287	534	122	151	8,949	108
Massachusetts.....	---	3,104	4,851	---	52	---	---	---	427
Michigan.....	---	203,691	21,841	---	83	15	117	268	615
Minnesota.....	---	1,029	9,987	---	---	---	54	---	13
Mississippi.....	4,636	4,980	171,970	134,681	9,205	30,086	81	28,672	37,666
Missouri.....	---	4,867	159,793	6,407	16,938	4,364	12,811	485	882
Montana.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Nebraska.....	---	1	146	---	---	---	60	---	6
New Hampshire.....	---	9,051	4,417	---	15	---	---	---	---
New Jersey.....	---	314	14,654	1,056	4	---	40	628	1,063
New Mexico.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
New York.....	---	56,992	24,740	---	5	32	9	532	3,182
North Carolina.....	---	7,910	139,438	28,977	1,541	39,395	533	55,938	2,150
Ohio.....	---	31,659	138,650	859	3,163	1,471	3,682	10,912	570
Oklahoma.....	---	195	11,921	8,799	1,657	1,291	10	---	1,529
Oregon.....	---	731	176	---	---	---	---	---	---
Pennsylvania.....	---	44,427	167,043	813	497	121	421	7,945	7,246
Rhode Island.....	---	10	488	---	---	---	---	---	---
South Carolina.....	---	6,508	35,776	87,428	2,095	28,736	11	13,364	433
South Dakota.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Tennessee.....	---	15,491	263,549	43,043	6,761	8,793	5,817	52,898	6,282
Texas.....	3,239	177	92,228	59,155	1,034	8,646	2	---	823
Utah.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Vermont.....	---	18,694	1,957	---	---	---	20	---	200
Virginia.....	---	6,599	230,412	25,171	2,329	21,719	1,626	80,406	1,486
Washington.....	---	1,803	160	---	---	---	1	---	31
West Virginia.....	2	60,999	244,721	2,926	1,380	4,590	5,647	62,483	5,147
Wisconsin.....	---	97,764	49,553	---	44	---	54	---	138
Wyoming.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1/ Combined to avoid disclosing data for individual establishments.

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